



KANAWHA COUNTY REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Meeting Minutes April 2, 2019

Call to Order by Chairwoman: Tresa Howell

Roll Call: Stephanie Abramowitz, Susie Azevedo, Diana Brown, Donna Caruthers, Barbara Hackworth, Donna Holstine, David Howell, Tresa Howell, Bree Johnson, Candace Joseph, Fred Joseph, John Kogoy, Nancy Kogoy, Frank Larese, Ryan Lemmon, Thorney Lieberman, Brian Mace, Larry Medley, Ethan Morris, Madison Neeley, Logan Neeley, Janet O'Farrell, Carolyn Stricklen and Danny Stricklen were voting members present. Beth Bloch, an associate member, was present.

The Minutes and the Financial Reports from the February and March meetings, and the April Meeting Agenda were distributed. David Howell made a motion to approve the April Meeting Agenda, Ryan Lemmon seconded the motion and it passed. There was not a quorum at the March meeting so we proceeded with the review and approval of February and March documents. Ryan Lemmon made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February meeting. Logan Neeley seconded the motion and it passed. Donna Holstine made a motion to approve the March Meeting Minutes, Susie Azevedo seconded it and it passed. Donna Caruthers made a motion to approve the February Financial Report. Ryan Lemmon seconded the motion and it passed. Donna Caruthers made a motion to approve the Financial Report from March, Ryan Lemmon seconded the motion and it passed.

Our Chairwoman announced the addition of new members to the committee. Each person spoke briefly about their background and interest in joining the committee. Sharon Malcolm applied to become an associate member. Larry Medley made a motion to accept Sharon Malcom as an associate member. Ryan Lemmon seconded the motion and it passed. Anne Lieberman would represent District 1-H as a committeewoman. Fred Joseph motioned to approve Anne Lieberman as a committee woman. Carolyn Stricklen seconded the motion and it passed. Katherine Larese applied to be a committeewoman representing District 1-E. Susie Azevedo made a motion to approve Katherine Larese as a committee woman. Larry Medley seconded the motion and it passed. Greg Thomas would represent District 2-F as a committeeman. Fred Joseph motioned to approve Greg Thomas as a committee man. Nancy Kogoy seconded the motion and it passed. Bill Huddleston applied to be an associate member representing District 3-I. The approval for Bill Huddleston was reaffirmed in the May 7, 2019 meeting and the minutes will reflect as such due to the KCREC Secretary missing the vote for approval in the April 2, 2019 meeting. All new members filled out their paperwork and took the Oath of Office, along with Ethan Morris to complete their documents.

The Care Committee did not send out any cards last month. The Recruitment Committee was pleased with the new members joining and was focusing on getting committee people in Districts 4-E and 4-I, but all new members are needed. Lincoln Day Dinner was still being planned and those on the Lincoln Day Dinner committee will stay after the meeting for more planning. The money collected by KCREC to donate to the Crossroads Pregnancy Center will be delivered April 3. A discussion was opened about participating on April 15 at an event at Power Baseball Park by buying a booth at the cost of \$400. After some discussion the committee decided not to participate.

Another person applied to become a KCREC member. Jonathan Rodgers would represent District 1-H as an associate member. Brian Mace made a motion to have Jonathan Rodgers on the committee as an associate member, Donna Holstine seconded the motion and it passed. The chairwoman announced that the committee was very low on envelopes and letterhead paper. She presents various choices in quantities and prices. Carolyn Stricklen made a motion to spend \$375 on these items, Danny seconded the motion and it passed. The KCREC secretary, Stephanie Abramowitz announced she was resigning as secretary but would remain a committeewoman due to new family responsibilities. The Chairwoman asked her to suggest replacements and thanked her.

Larry Medley made a motion to open the agenda to discuss another matter. Danny Stricklen seconded the motion and it passed. Susie Azevedo made a motion to go into Executive Session, Ryan Lemmon seconded the motion and it passed. The Chairwoman asked that guests to the meeting exit and that only KCREC members remain. Carolyn Stricklen asked to address the members. She explained that committee members took an oath to uphold the by-laws of WVGOP and the platform of the Republican Party. She reminded the committee of the past concerns with elected officials not adhering to the platform and efforts to vet primary candidates. She said Governor Justice supports President Trump but does not govern as a Republican, citing education reform, transportation and appointing Democrat judges as examples. She then presented a prepared Resolution of No Confidence in Governor Justice. A discussion opened allowing members to express concerns and support. Members wondered if this is the best way to encourage Governor Justice to consider his positions, especially considering the upcoming session on Education Reform. Some suggested trying to get our message out in the media instead. Others felt this was not the right way to handle things. Carolyn was asked what was the purpose of this resolution. She answered with the Special Education Session approaching and a good bill, #451 presented, that the goal was to get the Governor to reconsider his position on the education bill, govern more as a Republican, and possibly not run for re-election. She stated this could also encourage other executive committees to also express no confidence. This resolution would also open the door to other primary GOP candidates for governor. After more discussion and efforts to follow protocol, Thorney made a motion to exit the Executive Session, Larry Medley seconded the motion and it passed. John Kogoy made a motion to have a roll call vote on the Resolution of No Confidence in Governor Justice, Fred Joseph seconded the motion and it passed. Votes were 19 for the resolution, 4 votes against, and 3 abstentions.

Next meeting will be on May 7 at Voters Registration in Charleston. Fred Joseph made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Thorney Lieberman seconded the motion, and the committee adjourned.

Submitted by Stephanie Abramowitz, Secretary